

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 were pending in the application. In this Preliminary Amendment, original claims 3, 5, 7-8 and 10 are canceled and new claims 11-35 are presented.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 and 11-35 are presently pending in the application, to which Applicant tenders the following remarks:

Amendments to Claims 1, 4, 6 and 9.

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 9 are amended herein to correct informalities and to use language that adds greater clarity to the claims. No new matter is added.

New Claims 12-16 and 18 and Cancellation of Claims 3, 5, 7-8 and 10.

Original claims 3, 5, 7-8 and 10 have been canceled; the subject matter thereof is re-presented in new claims 12-16 and 18. The new claims are substantially identical to original claims 3, 5, 7-8 and 10 except for amendments to correct informalities and to clarify the claimed subject matter.

Applicant's intent in this replacement of claims is to re-group the pending by subject matter (e.g., melamine resin, decorative laminate) for ease of examination. The cancellation of claims 3, 5, 7-8 and 10 is not done for any reason related to patentability thereof, and no new matter is added.

New Claims 11 and 17.

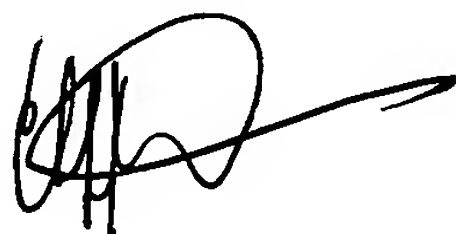
Claim 9 has been amended to remove a second, narrower concentration range; this range is now presented in new claim 11. No new matter is added. Similarly, new claim 17 derives from a limitation previously appearing in original claim 10.

New claims 20-35.

New claims 20-28 parallel the subject matter of claims 12-19 and find further support in the specification at, e.g., pages 1-3, 5-7, and 8-9. No new matter is added.

New claims 29-35 parallel the subject matter of claims 1-2, 4, 6, 9 and 11, and find further support in the specification at pages 1-3, 6-7 and 9. No new mater is added.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Cliff D. Weston", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cliff D. Weston
Registration No. 48,307

36845

Microban Products Company
11515 Vanstory Drive, Suite 125
Huntersville, NC 28078
Phone: (704) 875-0806
Fax: (704) 875-0810